UNFUNDED MANDATES/Border Control

SUBJECT: Unfunded Mandate Reform Act of 1995 . . . S. 1. Graham modified amendment No. 184.

ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 93-6

SYNOPSIS: Pertinent votes on this legislation include Nos. 15-41, 43-45, 47-55, and 57-61.

As reported by the Governmental Affairs Committee and the Budget Committee, S. 1, the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act of 1995, will create 2 majority (51-vote) points of order in the Senate. The first will lie against the consideration of a bill or joint resolution reported by an authorizing committee if it contains mandates and if Congressional Budget Office (CBO) cost estimates on those mandates are unavailable. The second point of order will lie against the consideration of a bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, or conference report that will cause the total cost of unfunded intergovernmental mandates in the legislation to exceed \$50 million.

The Graham modified amendment would add that the term "Federal Intergovernmental Mandate" will also mean any Federal reduction in border control efforts and any Federal reduction in the reimbursement to States, local governments, or tribal governments for the net costs associated with illegal, deportable, and excludable aliens. These additions to the definition would only apply with respect to State, local, or tribal governments that fully cooperate in the efforts of the Federal Government to locate, apprehend, and deport illegal aliens.

Those favoring the amendment contended:

The Federal Government has the sole responsibility under the Constitution to control the United States' borders. It has not adequately exercised that responsibility, and as a result there are now 3.5 million illegal aliens in our country. Those aliens impose serious financial burdens on State and local governments. Our belief is that the Federal Government should increase its efforts to expel illegal aliens and to keep new aliens from sneaking in. Accordingly, we have offered the Graham amendment. This amendment would define any reduction in Federal border control efforts as an unfunded mandate because it would result in more aliens in the

(See other side)

YEAS (93)				NAYS (6)		NOT VOTING (1)	
Republican (50 or 96%)		Democrats (43 or 91%)		Republicans (2 or 4%)	Democrats (4 or 9%)	Republicans	Democrats (0)
						(1)	
Abraham Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brown Burns Chafee Coats Cochran Cohen Coverdell Craig D'Amato DeWine Dole Domenici Faircloth Frist Gramm Grams Grassley Gregg Hatch Hatfield Hutchison	Inhofe Kassebaum Kempthorne Kyl Lott Lugar Mack McCain McConnell Murkowski Nickles Packwood Pressler Roth Santorum Shelby Simpson Smith Snowe Specter Stevens Thomas Thompson Thurmond Warner	Akaka Baucus Bingaman Boxer Bradley Breaux Bryan Bumpers Byrd Campbell Conrad Daschle Dodd Dorgan Exon Feingold Feinstein Ford Glenn Graham Harkin	Hollings Inouye Johnston Kennedy Kerrey Kerry Kohl Lautenberg Leahy Lieberman Mikulski Moseley-Braun Moynihan Murray Pell Pryor Reid Robb Rockefeller Sarbanes Simon Wellstone	Gorton Jeffords	Biden Heflin Levin Nunn	EXPLANAT 1—Official I 2—Necessar 3—Illness 4—Other SYMBOLS: AY—Annou AN—Annou PY—Paired PN—Paired	nced Yea nced Nay Yea

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United States and higher State and local costs to care for them. It would also define any reduction in Federal assistance to State and local governments to pay costs associated with illegal aliens as an unfunded Federal mandate. In the latter case, though, a reduction in assistance to a State or local government that was not cooperative in efforts to apprehend and deport illegal aliens would not be considered an unfunded mandate. This amendment has been carefully negotiated between Senators, and we are certain that it will now meet with the support of a majority of our colleagues.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.